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CIA 'spent several millions trying to undermine Allende'

BY OUR WASHINGTON STAFF

THE Central Intelligence Agency spent millions of dollars on trying to undermine the Marxist Government of the late President Allende in Chile, according to leaked reports of Congressional testimony.

The money is said to have been used to foster strikes and unrest.

According to the *New York Times* and the *Washington Post* yesterday that is what Mr William Colby, director of the CIA, secretly told the House of Representatives' special subcommittee on the Armed Services and intelligence matters. The testimony was said to have been in April.

The *Post* said \$11 million (more than £4,750,000) was spent, but the *Times* put the figure at \$8 million (more than £3,450,000) over three years.

Copy of letter

Both papers said that Mr Colby's confidential testimony was revealed in a leaked copy of a letter from Mr Michael Harrington, a Massachusetts Democrat, to Mr Thomas Morgan, a Pennsylvania Democrat who is chairman of the House Foreign Affairs Committee.

Mr Colby has publicly denied any CIA involvement in the coup which toppled the Allende Government a year ago. The coup followed severe economic difficulties and widespread unrest in Chile.

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